

ISLAM, OUR GLORIOUS RELIGION

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF “HAMARA ISLAM”

VOLUME 1 (OF 9)

IMPORTANT NOTE: For All ARABIC TEXTS, please read from ARABIC ONLY – do not read from the transliteration, as other languages cannot convey the same sounds and then the meanings would differ. The transliteration given in this book is for reference and guidance only.

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Islam, Our Glorious Religion

ABOUT THIS BOOK

In the name of Allah, The Most Affectionate, the Most Merciful.

We praise Him (Allah) and beseech Him for His [choicest] blessings & peace on His beloved Prophet, the kind master of all Muslims.

This book is the English version of Maulana Khalil-ul-'Ulema and Khaleel-e-Millat 'Allamah Mufti Mohammed Khaleel Khan Qadri Barakati Noori Abul Qasmi's (may Allah have mercy on him) book - "Hamara Islam". It dwells upon Islamic faith, beliefs, worships, commands and principles founded on correct Sunni (Hanafi) creed, in religious education.

Khaleel-e-Millat had a name in the literary field and the arena of oratory and writing. Being educated and groomed in the religious environment of the mystic centre of Barakaatiah Maa-rehrah Shareef this practicing scholar penned a number of books on Islam and kept doing so until he breathed his last while writing his last book titled "Maut Kaa Safar" (The journey towards death). Some of his books are under study of religious scholars and masses in almost every country under the sun particularly "Sunni Behishtee Zaiwar" (The Jewels of Paradise) which is a treasure of Islamic essentials and imperatives for married persons.

This book "Hamara Islam" (Islam: The glorious religion) of Khaleel-e-Millat has been widely commended by the religious scholars in general and by the Sunni scholars in particular across the world. This is on the religious curriculum of many seminars and schools in Pakistan and in India too. The Tanzeem-ul Madaaris Ahle Sunnah Pakistan has included this book in the curriculum of all religious seminars of Sunni creed operating in Pakistan. An organization of religious students of Pakistan (Anjuman Talebah-e-Islam) has included this book in its course of study to educate and train its members and supporters. Besides, this book is also being focused in many religious seminaries of Muslims in Europe and USA as one of the subjects of curricular importance.

It is also a unique honour for this book that thousands of its editions have been published since its first publication in 1955.

Some of its parts have been translated in Dutch, Hindi and English languages. This translation will, by the grace of Allah Almighty, prove highly beneficial to the students of those seminaries/schools that are using English as a medium of instruction and for the English speaking people.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 1 - FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAMIC FAITH

"Bism-Allah irRahmaan irRaheem"

(Allah, in the name of, the Most Affectionate, the Most Merciful)

Al-Hamdu Lillaahi Rabbil 'Aalameen was Salaatu was- Salaamu 'Alaa Saieyidinaa Mohammedin wa Aalehee wa As-haabehee Ajma 'een.

(Praise be to Allah, the Creator, Sustainer and Nourisher of all the Worlds and the choicest blessings and peace of Allah be upon His Apostle our kind master Hazrat Mohammed and upon his pious posterity and devoted companions).

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAMIC FAITH

THE SIX BASIC TENETS:

1. KALEMAH TAYYEBAH

FIRST: THE HOLY DECLARATION

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ

Laa Ilaaha Illal Laahu Mohammedur-Rasoolul Laah. (Sallal Laahu 'Alaihi Wa Sallam).

There is no God except Allah, Mohammed is the Apostle of Allah.

2. KALEMAH SHAHAADAH

SECOND: THE DECLARATION OF TESTIMONY

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Ash-hadu Allaa-Ilaaha IllAllaho Wahdahoo Laa Shareeka Lahoo wa Ash-hadu Anna Mohammedan 'Abduhoo wa Rasooluh.

I testify that there is no God except Allah; He is One; He has no partner and I testify that (Hazrat) Mohammed is His (chosen) servant and (true) Apostle.

3. KALEMAH TAMJEED

THIRD: THE DECLARATION OF ALLAH'S MAJESTY

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ

Subhaa-nal Laahi wal-Hamdu Lillaahi wa-Laaa Ilaaha IllAllaho wAllaho Akbar.Wa-Laa Haula wa-Laa Quwwata Illaa Billaa-hil 'Alee-yil 'Azeem.

Glory be to Allah and Allah alone deserves all praise; there is no God except Allah and Allah is the Most Great; there is no power, nor might to save (us) from sins and enable (us) to do good except from Allah, the Most High, the Most Great.

4. KALEMAH TAUHEED

FOURTH: THE DECLARATION OF ONENESS OF ALLAH

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ يُخَيَّرُ وَيُمِيتُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

Laa Ilaaha Illal Laahu Wahdahu Laa Shareeka Lahu Lahul Mulku Walahul Hamd. Yuhyee wa yomeetu wa Huwa Haie-yul Laa Yamootu Abadan Abadaa. Zul-Jalaale wal-Ikraam Bi-yade-hil Khaier. Wa Huwa 'Alaa Kulli Shaie-in Qadeer.

There is no God except Allah; He is One; He has no partner; His is the entire Kingdom and all praise is due to Him; He gives life and causes death; And He is the Ever-living and He will never ever die; He is the Most Great and highly Glorified; in His hands lies all good and He has absolute power over everything.

5. KALEMAH ISTIGHFAAR

FIFTH: THE DECLARATION OF BEGGING FORGIVENESS

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ أَذْنَبْتُهُ عَمْدًا أَوْ خَطَاً سِرًّا أَوْ عَلَانِيَةً وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ مِنَ الذَّنْبِ الَّذِي أَعْلَمُ وَمِنَ الذَّنْبِ الَّذِي لَا أَعْلَمُ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ وَ سَتَّارُ الْغُيُوبِ وَ عَفَّارُ الذُّنُوبِ وَ لَا حَوْلَ وَ لَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ

Astaghfi-rul Laaha Rabbi Min Kulli Zanmbin Aznabtohu 'Amadan Ao-khata-an Sirran Ao 'Alaani-yatan wa Atoobu Ilaiehi Minaz-zanmbillazee 'Alamu wa Minaz-zanmbillazee Laaa 'Alamu Innaka Anta 'Allaa-mul Ghu-yubi wa Sattaa-rul 'Oyubi wa Ghaffaa-rul Zunoob. Walaa Haula walaa Quwwata Illaa Bil-Laa-hil-'Ali-yil Azeem.

I beg forgiveness from Allah, Who is my Creator and Cherisher, for each and every sin which I committed consciously or unconsciously, secretly or openly; I also seek His forgiveness for sins which I know or do not know; O' Allah! Undoubtedly, You are the best Knower of all the unseen, the best Coverer of (our) failings and the best Forgiver of (our) sins and it is only the blessing of Allah, which helps (us) to avoid sins and do good; He is indeed the Most High, the Most Great.

6. KALEMAH RADD-E-KUFR

SIXTH: THE DECLARATION FOR REJECTION OF INFIDELITY

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنِّىْ اَعُوْذُ بِكَ مِنْ اَنْ اُشْرِكَ بِكَ شَيْئًا وَّ اَنَا اَعْلَمُ بِهٖ وَ اَسْتَغْفِرُكَ لِمَا لَا اَعْلَمُ بِهٖ ثُبْتُ عَنْهُ وَ تَبَرَّأْتُ مِنَ الْكُفْرِ وَ الشِّرْكِ وَ الْكِذْبِ وَ الْغَيْبَةِ وَ الْبِدْعَةِ وَ النَّمِيْمَةِ وَ الْفَوَاحِشِ وَ الْبُهْتَانِ وَ الْمَعَاصِي كُلِّهَا وَ اَسْلَمْتُ وَ اَقُوْلُ لَا اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اللهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُوْلُ اللهِ

Allaa-humma Innee A'oozu-bika Min An Ushrika Bika Shaie-an wa Anaa 'Alamu Bihee wa Astaghfiroka Limaa Laaa 'Alamu Bihee Tubtu 'Anhu wa-Tabarra'-tu Minal Kufri wash-Shirki wal-Kizbi wal-Gheebati wal-Bid'ati wan-Nameemati wal-Fawaahishi wal-Bohtaani wal-Ma'aasee Kullihaa wa Aslamtu wa Aqoolu Laaa Ilaaha Illal Laahu Mohammedur Rasoolul Laah. (Sallal Laahu 'Alaiehi wa-Sallam).

O' Allah! I seek refuge with You to save myself from associating any partner with You, which I know; and I beg Your forgiveness for sins which I do not know; I solemnly repent and disdainfully cast off infidelity, polytheism, lying, backbiting, bad innovations, rumor-mongering, all shameful deeds and slander and every sort of disobedience and I sincerely submit (to You) and I sincerely declare

“There is no God except Allah; Mohammed is the Apostle of Allah.”

ISLAMIC FAITH IN BRIEF

اٰمَنْتُ بِاللّٰهِ كَمَا هُوَ بِاَسْمَائِهِ وَصِفَاتِهِ وَقَبِلْتُ جَمِيعَ اَحْكَامِهِ

"Aamantu Bil-Laahi Kamaa Huwa bi-Asmaaa-eh ee wa Sifaatehee wa Qabiltu Jamee'a Ahkaamehee Iqraa-rum bil-Lisaani wa Tasdeequm bil-Qalb".

I have firmly believed in Allah, as He is, with all His names and attributes and have sincerely accepted all His commands: acknowledging them with my tongue and confirming them with my heart.

ISLAMIC FAITH IN DETAIL

اٰمَنْتُ بِاللّٰهِ وَمَلٰئِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُوْلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْاٰخِرِ وَالْقَدْرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ مِنَ اللّٰهِ تَعَالٰى وَالْبَعْثِ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ

"Aamantu Bil-Laahi wa Malaaa-ikatehee wa Kutubehee wa Rusulihee wal-Yaumil Aakheri wal-Qadri Khaierehee wa Sharrehee Minal Laahi Ta'aalaa wal-Ba'si Ba'dal Maut".

I have accepted faith in Allah, His Angels, His Books, His Apostles and the Day of Judgement: and I believe that every good and evil has been predestined by Allah and in resurrection after death.

A SUMMARY OF ISLAMIC BELIEFS

1. Allah is One indeed. He has absolutely no partner. He alone is worthy of being worshipped. He is all Independent and depends on none. All the worlds and creatures are subservient to Him.
2. We believe in all Apostles and Prophets whom Allah Almighty sent for the guidance of humanity. It is obligatory upon every believer to respect and revere all Apostles and consider them as Allah's 'loved ones'. Our kind lord and master Hazrat Mohammed (may the choicest blessings & peace of Allah be upon him) is the leader and highest of all the Apostles and Prophets.
3. Allah, the Almighty has revealed books to some Apostles, which are called "Kalaam Allah" (speech of Allah). To have faith and belief in all the revealed books and in their contents is essential. Of all the revealed books, the Glorious Qur'an which was gifted to our Beloved Prophet (Hazrat) Mohammed is the best and Allah Almighty Himself has taken up the responsibility of its protection.
4. Angels are the creatures of Allah, whom he has created from light. They are neither male nor female. They are innocent and obedient servants of Allah. They only do or perform what Allah commands them. They subsist on the worship and remembrance of Allah.
5. Genies have been created of fire. They live and die like human beings. There are believers, disbelievers, the good and the bad in them. Disbelieving and mischievous genies are called devils.
6. One day everything (angels, mountains, animals, the earth, the sky) will perish like human beings. There will remain nothing in existence but Allah alone. Then all things will be re-created and the dead ones will be resurrected from their graves. All will be made to gather in a particular field that is called "Mahshar" The Balance will be installed and deeds of each one will be weighed in it. Everyone will get the punishment of his/her misdeeds & sins and the reward of their own virtuous acts. Believers will be admitted into paradise while infidels(kaafir) and disbelievers will be cast into Hell.

7. Hell has a bridge over it that leads to heaven. It is called "Pool Siraat"(the path). It is thinner than a hair and sharper than a sword. All people will have to cross this "Siraat". It is the one and only one pathway to reach heaven.

8. Whatever had to happen in the world and whatever one had to do - Allah Almighty wrote all of that with His eternally infinite knowledge. And whatever has been decreed will certainly happen without the slightest change. This is called "Taqdeer" (predestination).

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 2 - THE DEFINITION OF ISLAM

Q 1: Who are we?

A. We are Muslims.

Q 2: Who is called a Muslim?

A. The follower of Islamic faith is called a Muslim.

Q 3: On which principles is Islam based?

A. Islamic faith is based on five cardinal principles:

- a. To bear witness that there is no God except Allah and that Hazrat Mohammed (may the choicest blessings & peace of Allah be upon him) is His chosen servant and true Apostle.
- b. To offer prayer five times a day.
- c. To pay "Zakaat" (charity) – only upon those who are rich.
- d. To perform Hajj – only upon those who can reach the holy place.
- e. To observe fasts during the holy month of Ramadaan.

Q 4: What is Kalamah of Islam (Islamic declaration)?

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ

A. "***Laa Ilaaha Illal Laahu Mohammedur Rasoolul Laah***". (There is no God except Allah: Mohammed is the Apostle of Allah.)

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 3 - ISLAMIC FAITH & INFIDELITY

Q 1: What is Islamic faith?

A. Islamic faith is to firmly believe that the Holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammed (may the choicest blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) is a true Apostle and his every word and deed is also true. Whoever believes so is a Muslim.

Q 2: Can one be a Muslim who recites the Kalemah without understanding its meaning?

A. One who believes that Islam is the true religion and expresses his intention of embracing Islam with his tongue by reciting the Kalemah – will be considered a Muslim: even if there is no one to make him understand the meaning of the Kalemah or he does not understand it due to some handicap.

Q 3: What are those who do not believe in Islam, called?

A. Such people are called "infidels" (kaafir).

Q 4: Who is called a renegade (murtad)?

A. An apostate or a renegade is the wretched one who embraces Islam but even then speaks blasphemous words against Islam and is adamant not to renounce his blasphemy.

Q 5: Who are hypocrites?

A. Hypocrites are those who embrace Islam and claim to be Muslims but deny Islam from their heart.

Q 6: Who are polytheists (mushriks)?

A. Polytheists are those wretched ones who worship different objects except Allah or consider someone or something as partners in Allah's absolute kingdom and power.

Q 7: Which communities are polytheists (Mushrik) in the world?

A. For example, Hindus who worship idols and consider them partners in Allah's infinite Kingdom and eternal power, Christians, Jews, Parsis etc. who believe either in duality of God or in trinity. All such people are "Mushriks".

Q 8: Are there any "Mushriks" (polytheists) in Muslims?

A. God forbid! How can a Muslim be a "Mushrik"? For, he firmly believes in Oneness of the true God i.e. Allah! Contrary to this, a Mushrik is one who considers one or the other human being or thing as a partner of Allah. No Mushrik can be called a Muslim and no Muslim can be described as a Mushrik.

Q 9: What about those people who term Muslims as "Mushriks"?

A. Some misguided and disgruntled groups of people have surfaced who call Muslims "polytheists" and "heretics" on one pretext or the other. Muslims must avoid and disassociate themselves from such misguided elements, in order to save their faith.

Q 10: Can we call an infidel as infidel or not?

A. A Muslim should be called a Muslim and an infidel should be called an infidel. There is no valid reason in forbidding one to call infidel as "Kaafir". Allah Almighty Himself calls infidels as "Kaafir" in the Holy Qur'an i.e. "Qul Yaaa Aieyu-Hal Kaaferoon" (Say you [Mohammed] O' infidels!).

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 4 - ABOUT PARADISE

Q 1: What is paradise?

A. Paradise (heaven) is an abode of endless bliss that Allah Almighty has created for the believers. It comprises one hundred ranks and the distance between two ranks is like that of the distance between the earth and heavens. Each heaven is so vast and spacious that there will remain enough room if the whole world with all its contents is placed therein.

Q 2: What is in paradise?

A. Allah Almighty has created in Paradise such a variety of physical and spiritual bliss and felicity that is unseen, unheard, unimagined and undreamt of. Even an emperor in this world cannot enjoy such pleasures and facilities which will be available to the inmates of the lowest rank of paradise.

Q 3: What will be the greatest blessing in paradise?

A. The greatest favor bestowed to the believers in Paradise is the "vision (sight) of Allah". All divine bounties and favors will be eclipsed by Allah's vision. Once the believers experience this "vision" they would remain absorbed in its exquisite ecstasy forever.

Q 4: How many believers will be admitted into paradise?

A. The Holy Prophet said "From my slaves, seventy thousand would be admitted into heaven without any reckoning. Every one of them would take a group of seventy thousand believers with him into paradise." Allah Almighty would yet grace them and three more multitudes of believers would accompany them. The exact number of believers who will be admitted into heaven is known only to Allah or His noble Prophet whom Allah Almighty has endowed with such knowledge.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 5 - ABOUT HELL

Q1: What is hell?

A. Allah Almighty has created a dreadful place for the chastisement and punishment of infidels, disbelievers and sinners which is called "Jahannam" (hell). It has seventy thousand dangerous and horrendous valleys with each valley having seventy thousand similar horrid dells and pits. These valleys, dells and pits are infested with innumerable frightful scorpions and serpents.

Q 2: What is in hell?

A. There are varied torments in hell. It is dreadful even to think of the torments therein. In summary, it has the torments of fire, extreme cold, snakes, scorpions, poisonous animals etc. Its flames continuously rage high and overtake infidels with violent force. The fuel of hell are human beings and stones.

Q 3: How will a sinful believer be absolved?

A. A believer will ultimately be absolved irrespective of his countless sins and admitted into paradise either by the forgiveness of Allah Almighty, or the intercession of His beloved, the chosen Prophet Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings and peace be upon him) or after having served his term of punishment in hell. Paradise is the last and ultimate abode of believers wherein they will live eternally.

Q 4: Is there any absolution for infidels?

A. The major sins of infidelity and polytheism will never be forgiven. Infidels and polytheists will live eternally in hell and face different sorts of torments. They will also be locked in boxes of fire which will be encased in other fire boxes. Every infidel and polytheist will think that it is the last chastisement but they will get no relief and keep suffering torment upon torment.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 6 - THE IMPECCABLE LIFE OF ALLAH'S BELOVED PROPHET

Q 1: To which Prophet's community (Ummah) do you belong?

A. We belong to the community (Ummah) of Allah's Beloved Prophet Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him).

Q 2: Briefly mention about the childhood of the Holy Prophet

A. Our kind lord and master Hazrat Mohammed (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) was born in Makkah city of Arabia. His father Hazrat Abdullah (may Allah be pleased with him) had passed away before his birth. His mother Hazrat Beebee Aminah (may Allah be pleased with her) also died when the Prophet was of just six years. Thus the responsibility of his upbringing rested upon his paternal grand father Hazrat Abdul Muttalib (may Allah be pleased with him). But he also expired when the Prophet attained the age of 8 years, 2 months and 10 days. Hazrat Haleema nursed and breast-fed the Holy Prophet during his infancy.

Q 3: At what age did Allah Almighty make him Prophet?

A. The Holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) formally received Prophet hood and the first revelation at the age of 40 years, but in fact, he was the "first" of all the Apostles and Prophets as he himself said that "first of all Allah Almighty created my Noor (light)".

Q 4: How did the Holy Prophet preach and promote Islam?

A. At first, the Holy Prophet secretly preached Islam only to his close relatives and acquaintances – because ignorance and barbarism reigned supreme in Arabia and the concept of One God as the Creator, Sustainer and Nourisher was alien to their nature and to their soil. The first few Muslims worshipped Allah secretly. Even a father was afraid of his son and vice versa due to having embraced Islam. Gradually, the number of male and female converts to Islamic faith swelled and then Allah Almighty commanded the Holy Prophet to preach Islam openly. He did so and Islam rapidly spread in whole of Makkah city and even in adjoining areas.

Q 5: Who was the first to embrace Islam?

A. Hazrat Abu Bakr (may Allah be pleased with him) was the first among men to embrace Islam, Hazrat Khudaija-tul-Kubra (may Allah be pleased with her) was first among women, Hazrat 'Alee (may Allah be pleased with him) was the first among young boys and among slaves Hazrat Zaid bin Harisah (may Allah be pleased with him), was first who embraced Islam.

Q 6: Where did the Holy Prophet live throughout his life?

A. The Holy Prophet preached Islam fourteen years in the holy city of Makkah (his birth place). Allah Almighty wanted to make the holy Madinah, the "bastion" of Islam so some people of Madinah during their visit to Makkah embraced Islam and started preaching the Islamic faith. Thus the first seminary of Islam was founded in Madinah. Gradually the Muslims of Makkah migrated to Madinah and at last the Darling Elect of Allah, Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) also shifted to Madinah and spent his entire remaining life there. His holy shrine is in Madinah Munawwara which is visited by millions of his lovers and devotees. He (apparently) passed away at the age of sixty three, but actually he is alive in his hallowed grave.

Q 7: What special favor was bestowed to the Holy Prophet in Makkah?

A. During the fifth year after the proclamation of his Prophethood, the Holy Prophet was blessed with "Me'raaj" (ascension to the heavens) – in a part of the night whilst he was awake. He was taken on the "Buraaq" (a white, very fast, heavenly steed which stepped beyond his vision) by the Chief Angel Hazrat Jibreel from his sacred house in Makkah to the Aqsa mosque (in Jerusalem) and then to the skies, and heavens. He visited all the seven skies, the highest heaven and Haud-e-Kausar (the lake fount reserved for the Holy Prophet). Hell was presented before him to see for himself the torments to be meted out to infidels and sinners. He saw each and everything. Nothing remained unseen. He even saw Allah's Jamaal (splendidly sublime sight) and spoke with Him without any

intermediary. On this occasion, Salaat (prayer) five times a day was made obligatory on the believers. He returned to Makkah, before the night was over.

Q 8: Is there any successor to the Prophethood of Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him)?

A. No, absolutely not. The Holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) is "Khaataman Nabiyyeen" (the Last Prophet). He who believes or considers that there was or is or will be any Prophet after Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) is an infidel and disbeliever.

Q 9: What rank does the Holy Prophet hold among the Prophets?

A. Our kind lord and master Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) is the highest and leader of all the Apostles and Prophets. He is a perfect combination of all the blessed traits, perfections and miracles that were individually found in the other Prophets. He is the Beloved of Allah which clearly shows that no other Apostle, Prophet or Angel is so close to Allah as he is.

Q 10: What about the belief of those people who describe the Holy Prophet as a mere human being or like their elder brother?

A. He who considers the Holy Prophet a mere human being like himself, or says he is like my elder brother or tries to denigrate him in any way is an apostate and disbeliever. It has been explained at various places in the Holy Qur'an that nations in the past slid into misguidance and disbelief because they considered and treated their Prophets as mere human beings like themselves.

Q 11: What does it mean to believe in the Holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him)?

A. Belief in Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) means that we should have unwavering faith in his being the "Last Prophet" of Allah and that no Prophet will come after him, he is the best of all mankind and the most truthful and that our salvation in this world and the world hereafter lies in obeying him. We ought to love him more than our parents, children, and all mankind – more than even our own selves. In fact, our unbounded love and reverence for the Holy Prophet is "real faith"

Q 12: Which deeds reflect "love" for the Holy Prophet?

A. The following deeds of believers reflect the "love" for the Holy Prophet:

- Always speak highly of him with due reverence.
- Invoke Allah's blessings on him profusely (recite Durood Shareef as many times as possible).
- Be attentive and respectful when his sublime life is explained before you and recite Durood Shareef upon hearing his blessed name. Do not forget to add "Sallal Laahu 'Alaiehi wa Sallam" to his name if you write it anywhere.
- Have love for his posterity, companions and those who love the Holy Prophet.
- Harbor enmity towards his enemies.
- While talking about him, use words and phrases that befit his dignity and greatness.
- Do not call him "Yaa Mohammed" (O' Mohammed) but call him "Yaa Nabi-yal Laah (O' Prophet of Allah) and "Yaa Rasoolal Laah" (O' the Apostle of Allah).
- Follow his Sunnah with heart and soul.
- Organize and attend "Eid Meelaad-un-Nabee" programs (celebrations of the Holy Prophet's birth day i.e. 12th Rabi UL Awwal) and enthusiastically recite Salaat-o-Salaam (invocation of Allah's blessings on him) upon him.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 7 - ABOUT THE HOLY QUR'AN:

Q 1: What is the Holy Qur'an?

A. The Glorious Qur'an is the word of Allah (Kalaam Allah) which Allah has gifted to His Beloved Prophet Hazrat Mohammed (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him). To believe in what it contains is a part and parcel of our faith.

Q 2: How do you know that the Holy Qur'an is the Speech of Allah?

A. The Holy Qur'an is itself a convincing proof of it being the Speech of Allah. It declares and challenges infidels and disbelievers that **"if you are in some doubt about what we have sent to Our chosen bondman, then bring one chapter like it"**. All the enemies of Islam - particularly the eloquent poets of Arabia - put their heads together and strove hard to produce something like it but they failed miserably; they could not bring forth a single chapter, not even a single verse like it. Thus the Holy Qur'an is an open and everlasting miracle and a challenge to infidels and disbelievers till the end of time.

Q 3: What is the distinction of the Qur'an?

A. The ever-living miracle of the Glorious Qur'an is that the believers & even their children can commit the entire Qur'an to their memory. Contrary to this, other revealed books could not be memorized by the followers of the books except the Prophets to whom the said books were revealed.

Q 4: In how many days was the Holy Qur'an sent down?

A. The Holy Qur'an was sent down in 23 years. Its verses were sent down either singly or in batches as the need arose.

Q 5: How much reward does a believer get for reciting the Glorious Qur'an?

A. Our kind master Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) said, "He who recites a letter of the Qur'an gets one goodness which is equal to ten good deeds" and stressed "I do not say that 'Alif-Laaam-Meeem' is one letter but 'Alif' is a letter, 'Laam' is another letter and 'Meem' is another letter.

Q 6: What does Islam say about a believer who does not learn the Holy Qur'an?

A. The Holy Prophet has said "the chest (of a believer) which has nothing of the Qur'an in it is like a deserted house".

Q 7: What are the basic rules of reciting the Holy Qur'an?

A. The believer should be in the state of ablution (Wudu), and sit at a clean place preferably in mosque facing the Qibla (Holy Ka'bah) placing the Holy Qur'an before himself, on a raised surface. He should begin reciting the Glorious Qur'an preceded by "**A'oozu bil-Laahi Minash Shaietaa-nir Rajeem**" (I seek refuge with Allah from the Devil, the accursed) and "**Bismil-Laahir Rahmaa-nir Raheem**" (Allah, beginning with the name of, the Most Affectionate, the Most Merciful) with sincerity and humility. Show no haste but recite carefully and with calmness. Mind it! The mouth should be free from every kind of smell like onion, garlic etc and other hasty comments or invalid talks...

It is sinful to touch the Holy Qur'an without ablution. Listeners should be attentive and respectful to the recitation.

Q 8: How should we dispose an old worn out & illegible copy of the Qur'an?

A. A copy of the Holy Qur'an which is worn out and is no more legible, should be buried, wrapped up in a piece of clean cloth, at such a place that is not trodden by human beings and animals. It is better to bury it in a grave-like ditch so as to save it from the earth.

Q 9: Are copies of the Holy Qur'an with correct text available?

A. Yes, the copies of the Holy Qur'an with correct text - without the slightest difference - are available everywhere. It is safe from being changed or corrupted as Allah Almighty is Himself its

Protector.

Q 10: What is the divine wisdom in the revelation of the Holy Qur'an?

A. Allah Almighty has sent down the Holy Qur'an to guide His servants to the right path so that they may know Allah and His Apostle, follow their commands and abstain from evils.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 8 - EXCELLENCE OF SALAAT (PRAYER).

Q 1: What is Salaat(prayer)?

A. Worship of Allah by the Muslims in a specific manner is called "Salaat"(prayer). This method of prayer has been taught to the Muslims by Allah Almighty, His Apostle, Holy Qur'an and Sunnah.

Q2: On whom is prayer obligatory?

A. It is obligatory (Fard) upon every sane and mature Muslim male and female. The denier of its obligatory nature is infidel.

Q3: Is prayer obligatory on children?

A. It is not obligatory upon minors. However, at the age of seven they should be taught how to offer prayer. When they reach the age of 10, they should be coerced to offer prayer: if they don't, they should be forced.

Q 4: Please explain some excellences of prayer?

A. The Beloved Prophet of Allah Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa, (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) has said: When a Muslim stands up to offer prayer his sins are shed away, just like the leaves of a tree during autumn. In another tradition it is reported that when a Muslim stands up to offer prayer, the gates of Paradise are opened up for him. Prayer is key to heavens. Prayer is the pillar of Islam, whoever establishes it, strengthens Islam- if he abandons it he demolishes the fortress of Islam. The Holy Qur'an says:Indeed prayer keeps one away from shameful and forbidden acts. In summary, the believer who is steadfast in offering prayer is dear to Allah and His Apostle and his livelihood, life and faith are blessed by the grace of prayer.

Q 5: What about a believer who does not offer prayer?

A. The Holy Prophet said that the name of Muslim who deliberately abandons prayer is written on the gates of Hell. Allah and His Prophet are disgusted with him. A believer who is not steadfast in prayer will be raised along with Pharaoh on Doomsday.

Q 6: What punishment should be meted out to a believer who does not offer prayer?

A. Excommunicate him. He may improve himself by fear of excommunication and become steadfast in offering prayer.

Q 7: What is the maturity age in Islam?

A. Boys and girls who have attained the age of 15 are considered mature in Islam. Prayer and fasts become obligatory upon them and all Islamic rules and regulations apply to them.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 9 - TIMINGS OF SALAAT (PRAYER).

Q 1: How many times is prayer to be offered every day?

A. Prayer is obligatory five times a day (day night:24 hours).

Q 2: What are the names of prayers?

A. 1. Salaat-ul-Fajr (the early morning prayer) 2.Salaat-ul-Zuhr (afternoon prayer) 3.Salaat-ul-Asr (late afternoon prayer) 4.Salaat-ul-Maghrib (evening prayer) 5.Salaat-ul-'Ishaa (night prayer).

Q 3: What is the appointed time of each prayer?

A. The appointed time of Fajr begins at dawn and ends at the sun-rise, Zuhr time begins when the sun has passed the meridian and lasts till the shadow of everything doubles excepting the real shadow. Asr time begins when the Zuhr time ends and lasts until before sun-set, Maghrib time begins after the sun has set and lasts till the complete disappearance of evening twilight and 'Ishaa time begins after the evening twilight has vanished and lasts until before dawn.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 10 - RAK'AHs (CYCLES) OF PRAYER.

Q 1: How many Rak'ahs (parts or cycles) are Fard (obligatory) in the 5 daily prayers?

A. 17 Rak'ahs are obligatory i.e. Fajr=2, Zuhr=4, Asr=4, Maghrib=3 and 'Ishaa=4.

Q 2: How many Rak'ahs are Sunnat-e-Muakkadah (emphasised Sunnah) in the five time prayers?

A. 12 Rak'ahs are Sunnat-e-Muakkadah i.e. 2 in Fajr before Fard:6 in Zuhr- 4 before Fard & 2 after Fard; 2 in Maghrib- after Fard: and 2 in Isha -after Fard.

Q 3: How many Rak'ahs are Sunnat-e-Ghair Muakkadah (non-emphasised Sunnah) or Nafil (optional, voluntary prayer) in all the five time prayers?

A. Following are Sunnat-e-Ghair-Muakkadah and Nafil in all the five time prayers: 2 Nafil after Zuhr, 4 or 2 Rakahs Sunnat-e-Ghair Muakkadah before Asr, 2 Nafil after Maghrib and 2 or 4 Rakahs Sunnat-e-Ghair Muakkadah before Isha's Fard, 2 Sunnat-e-Ghair Muakkadah after Isha's Fard followed by 2 Nafil, 3 Witr (essential prayer) and 2 Nafil. No particular number of Nafil prayers has been reported.

Q 4: How many Rak'ahs are offered in the five time prayers?

A. Total 48 Rak'ahs are offered in the five time prayers i.e. Fajr:4 Rak'ahs (2 Sunnat & 2 Fard), Zuhr: 12 Rak'ahs (4 Sunnat, 4 Fard, 2 Sunnat & 2 Nafil), Asr:8 Rak'ahs (4 Sunnat-e-Ghair-Muakkadah & 4 Fard), Maghrib:7 Rak'ahs (3 Fard, 2 Sunnat & 2 Nafil) and Isha:17 Rak'ahs (4 Sunnat Ghair Muakkadah, 4 Fard, 2 Sunnat, 2 Nafil, 3 Witr & 2 Nafil).

Q 5: Is Witr prayer Fard or Sunnah?

A. Three Rak'ahs of Witr are neither Fard nor Sunnah but are Waajib (essential) which are offered with Isha prayer.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 11 - ABOUT AZAAN (CALL TO PRAYER)

Q 1: What is Azaan?

A. A particular proclamation to call all Muslims to mosque for offering prayer is called the Azaan.

Q 2: Are there some specified words of Azaan?

A. Yes, there are specified words of Azaan i.e.



Allaho Akbar. Allaho Akbar.

Allaho Akbar. Allaho Akbar.

Ash-hadu Allaaa Ilaaha IllalLaah.

Ash-hadu Allaaa Ilaaha IllalLaah.

Ash-hadu Anna Mohammedar Rasoolul Laah.

Ash-hadu Anna Mohammedar Rasoolul Laah.

Ash-hadu Anna Mohammedar Rasoolul Laah.

Haiey-ya 'Alas-Salaah.

Haiey-ya 'Alas-Salaah.
Haiey-ya 'Alal Falaah.
Haiey-ya 'Alal Falaah.
Allaho Akbar,Allaho Akbar.
Laa Ilaaha IllalLaah.

Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest; I bear witness that there is no God except Allah, I bear witness that there is no God except Allah: I bear witness that Mohammed is the Apostle of Allah, I bear witness that Mohammed is the Apostle of Allah: Come towards Prayer, come towards Prayer; Come towards Success, come towards Success; Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest; There is no God except Allah!

Q 3: Are the same words repeated in every Azaan?

A. Yes, in every Azaan the same words are proclaimed except for Fajr Azaan in which these words "asSalaatu Khaierum Minan Naum" (prayer is better than sleep) are uttered twice after "Haie-ya 'Alal Falaah".

Q 4: How should one proclaim the Azaan?

A. A believer who intends to proclaim the Azaan (call to prayer) should stand, in the state of ablution, on a high or elevated place outside the precinct of the mosque facing the Qibla with his index fingers in his ears and loudly utter the words of Azaan, without haste. While saying "Haie-ya 'Alas-Salaah" he should turn his face towards the right side and while saying "Haie-ya 'Alal-Falaa" turn his face towards the left.

Q 5: What is the proclaimer Azaan called?

A. He who proclaims the Azaan is called a Mu'azzin.

Q 6: What should one do on hearing Azaan?

A. Upon hearing the Azaan, one should abandon all work even the recitation of the Holy Qur'an. He should listen to the Azaan attentively and respond to it. Remaining busy in talks ignoring the Azaan may cause one to have an evil end.

Q 7: What should one say in response to the Azaan?

A. A believer should repeat the words of the Mu'azzin but in response to "Haie-ya 'Alas-Salaah"(come for the prayer) and "Haie-ya 'Alal-Falaa"(come for the good work) he should say "Laa Haula wa-Laa Quwwata Illaa Billaah" (there is no might and power but in Allah who helps avoid sins and do good).

Q 8: What should a believer do on hearing the blessed name of Hazrat Mohammed Mustafa (may Allah's choicest blessings & peace be upon him) in the Azaan?

A. A believer must invoke Allah's blessings (recite Durood Sharif) on him when the Mu'azzin says "Ash-hadu Anna Mohammedar Rasoolul Laah" and it is better to say "**Qurratu 'Aienee Beka Yaa Rasoolal Laah. Alla-humma Matte'nee Bissam'i wal-Basar**"(O the Apostle of Allah! you are the delight of my eyes. O Allah!Grant me the usage of hearing and sight) while kissing his thumbs and then touching them with his eyes.

Q 9: What should be recited on hearing "As-Salaatu Khaierum Minan Naum" (prayer is better than sleep)?

A. Say "Sadaqta wa-Bararta wa-Bil-haqi Nataqta" (You have spoken rightly and performed a good deed, and guided with the truth).

Q 10: Which Du'aa (supplication) is made after Azaan?

A. Recite Durood Sharif(invoked Allah's blessings on the Holy Prophet) followed by this Du'aa:

Allaa-humma Rabba Haazihid-Da'watit-Taaammati was-Salaatil Qaa-imati Aati Saiey-yidinaa Mohammeda nil-Waseelata wal-Fadeelata wad-Darajatar Rafee'ata wab-As-hu Maqaamam

Mahmooda nil-Lazee wa'Attahu waj'alnaa Shafaa'atehee Yaumal Qi-yaamah. Innaka Laa Tukhliful-Mee'aad.

O Allah, the Lord of this perfect call and of the Prayer to be established! Grant our leader Hazrat Mohammed, the highest point in Paradise, and Excellence, and the highest rank, and install him on the praiseworthy position which You have promised him - and grant us his intercession on the Day of Resurrection. Indeed You do not go against Your promise.)

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 12 - ABOUT IQAAMAH

Q 1: What is Iqaamah?

A. Announcing the commencement of prayer in which the words of Azaan are repeated, causing the believers to stand in rows behind the Imaam, is called Iqaamah or Takbeer.

Q 2: What is the difference between Azaan and Iqaamah?

A. The difference between Azaan and Iqaamah is that while making Azaan one stands on a high or an elevated place outside the precinct of the mosque and puts his index fingers into the ears while Iqaamah is made inside the mosque in the first row behind (right-side or left-side of) the Prayer Leader (Imaam) without putting forefingers into the ears. Besides, in Iqaamah the words "**Qad Qaamatis Salaah, Qad Qaamatis Salaah**" (the prayer has been established) is recited after "Haie-ya 'Alal Falaah".

Q 3: How should one respond to Iqaamah?

A. Iqaamah should be responded in a way similar to the Azaan. However in response to "**Qad Qaamatis Salaah**" these words should be uttered: "**Aqaamahal Laahu Ta'aalaa wa Adaamahaa Maadaamatis-Samaawaatu wal-Ard**" (Allah has established it, and will keep it intact forever, until the sky and the earth are in existence).

Q 4: Should Iqaamah (Takbeer) be listened to whilst sitting or whilst standing?

A. The Prayer Leader (Imaam) and the follower (Muqtadi) should stand up upon hearing "Haie-ya 'Alal Falaah". It is undesirable to listen to the Iqaamah while standing.

Q 5: What is the proclaimer of the Iqaamah called?

A. He who proclaims the Iqaamah is called a "Mukabbir".

Q 6: Who should proclaim the Iqaamah?

A. The first right of proclaiming the Iqaamah is that of the Mu'azzin (one who proclaimed the Azaan). However, any other person can also make Iqaamah with his permission or in his absence.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 13 - ABOUT ABLUTION (WUDU)

Q 1: What is ablution (Wudu)?

A. To wash the face from the forelock down to the lower portion of the chin and from the lobe of one ear to the other, to wash hands up to the elbows and the feet up to ankles and passing wet fingers of both the hands over the head is called ablution (Wudu). It is forbidden to offer prayer without ablution.

Q 2: What is the method of performing Wudu?

A. Sit at a clean elevated place facing the Qibla to perform ablution and then recite "**Bism-Allah irRahmaan irRaheem**" with the intention of gaining reward and carrying out the command of Allah Almighty; wash both hands up to the wrists and then apply "Miswaak" (soft brush of plant stem) to the teeth, if available; otherwise rub the teeth with the forefinger; rinse the mouth thoroughly thrice and also gargle if not observing fast; sniff up water into the nostrils with the right hand three times ensuring that the water reaches the soft spot of the nose and wash the nose with the left hand; wash the face well thrice in such a way that no spot from the forelock down to the lower portion of the chin and from the lobe of one ear to the other remains dry (the water should flow on each spot of the face); wash both the hands (first right hand and then the left) up to and including the elbows three times (not a single spot – not even nails - should remain dry); wipe the head, ears and neck with wet hands only once – this is called do "Masah": finally then wash the feet (first the right foot and then the left) inclusive of the ankles, thrice.

Q3: How is Masah done?

A. Wet the hands with fresh water; join three fingers (excluding the forefingers and thumbs) of both the hands and pass them over the head from the forelock up to the nape of the neck and then bring them back similarly to the forehead; (the palms should not touch the head); wipe the inner sides of the ears with the tips of forefingers and wipe the outsides of the ears with the insides of the thumbs and the neck with with the back of the fingers. It is undesirable to do Masah of the throat.

Q 4: What should be recited after Wudu?

A. Having performed Wudu recite:

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْنِي مِنَ التَّوَّابِينَ وَاجْعَلْنِي مِنَ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

"Allaa-hummaj 'Alnee Minat-tawwaabeena waj'alnee Minal Mutatah-hareen"(O' Allah! make me of those who have repented and make me of those who have been purified).

Drink a little of the remaining ablution water (standing upright). Recite Kalemah-e-Shahaadat. Then whilst raising the index finger & looking towards the sky recite Surah Al-Qadr which will earn you a great reward.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 14 - WORDS OF SALAAT (PRAYER)

SANAA

Subhaanaka-Allahomma wa Bi-Hamdika wa Tabaarakasmuka wa Ta'aalaa Jadduka Walaaa Ilaaha Ghairuk.

O'Allah! All glory is due to You, I praise You, Your name is the Most Auspicious, Your Majesty is Most Supreme and there is none worthy of worship except You.

TA'AWUZ

A'oozu Billaahi Minash Shaietaa-nir Rajeem.

I seek the refuge of Allah from the accursed devil.

TASMIYAH

Bism-Allah irRahmaan irRaheem.

Allah – beginning with the name of -the Most Affectionate, the Most Merciful.

SURAH FAATEHA

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ
إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ
اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ
صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ

Al-Hamdu Lillaahi Rabbil 'Alaameen. Ar-Rahmaanir Raheem. Maaleke Yaumid-deen. Ei-yaaka Na'budu wa Ei-yaaka Nasta'een. Ihdenas Siraatal Mustaqeema Siraatal Lazeena An'amta 'Alaie-him Ghaieril Maghdoobi 'Alaie-him Walad Daaaleen.

All praise is to Allah, the Lord Of The Creation. The Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. Owner of the Day of Recompense. You alone we worship and from You alone we seek help (and may we always). Guide us on the Straight Path. The path of those whom You have favoured -Not the path of those who earned Your anger - nor of those who are astray.

SURAH IKHLAAS

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ
اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ
لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

Qul HuwAllaho Ahad. Allaa-hus Samad Lam Yalid Walam Yoolad Walam Yakul Lahoo Kufuwan Ahad.

Proclaim, "He is Allah, He is One. Allah is the Un-wanting. He has no offspring, nor is He born from anything. And there is none equal to Him."

TASMEEY

Sami 'Allaahu Liman Hamidah. Allah listens to whoever praises Him.

TAHMEED

Rabbanaa Lakal-Hamd. O our Lord! All praise is for You.

TASHAH-HUD

Atta-hee-yaatu Lillaahi was-Salawaatu wat-Taie-yi-baat. As-Salaamu 'Alaieka Aie-yu-han Nabeeyu wa Rahmatul Laahi wa Barakaatu. As-Salaamu 'Alaie-naa wa 'Alaa 'Ibaadil Laahis-Saaleheen. Ash-hadu Allaa Ilaaha Illal Laahu wa Ash-hadu Anna Mohammedan 'Abduhu wa

Rasoolu.

O Allah! You alone deserve all veneration, worship and glory. O Prophet! Peace be on you and the mercy of Allah and His blessings. Peace be upon us and upon the virtuous bondmen of Allah. I bear witness that there is no God except Allah and I bear witness that Mohammed is His chosen servant and His Apostle.

DUROOD-E-IBRAAHEEMI

Allaa-humma Salle 'Alaa Saiey-yidinaa Mohammedin wa 'Alaaa Aale Saiey-yidinaa Mohammedin Kamaa Salaieta 'Alaa Saiey-yidinaa Ibraaheema wa 'Alaaa Aale Saiey-yidinaa Ibraaheema Innaka Hamee-dum Majeed. Allaa-humma Baarik 'Alaa Saiey-yidinaa Mohammedin wa 'Alaaa Aale Saiey-yidinaa Mohammedin Kamaa Baarakta 'Alaaa Saiey-yidinaa Ibraaheema wa 'Alaaa Aale Saiey-yidinaa Ibraaheema Innaka Hamee-dum Majeed.

O' Allah! Send blessings on our master Mohammed as You did send on our master Ibraheem and the descendants of Ibraheem. You are, indeed, Praised, Glorified. O Allah! Bless our master Mohammed and the descendants of Mohammed as You did bless our master Ibraheem and the descendants of Ibraheem. Undoubtedly, You are Praised, Glorified.

DU'AA

Allaa-humma Innee Zalamtu Nafsee Zulman Kaseeran wa inna Laa Yaghfiruz-Zunooba Illaa Anta Faghfirlee Maghfiratam Min 'Indika Warhamnee Innaka Antal Ghafoorur Raheem.

O' Allah! I have oppressed my soul and undoubtedly there is no forgiver of sins except You. So forgive me by clemency from Yourself, and have mercy on me. Undoubtedly, You are the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Or this one:

Allaa-humma Rabbanaa Aatinaa Fid-Dunyaa Hasanah, wa Fil-Aakhirate Hasanah, wa Qinaa 'Azaaban-Naar.

O' Allah! Our Sovereign Lord, grant us good in this world and in the hereafter and protect us from the torment of hell.

DU'AA-E-QUNOOT

Allaa-humma Innaa Nasta'eenuka wa Nastaghfiruka wa Nu'minu Bika wa Natawakkalu 'Alaieka wa Nusnee 'Alaiekal Khaier. Wa Nashkuruka walaa Nakfuruka wa Nakhla'u wa Natruku Maien Yaffjuruk. Allaa-humma Ei-yaaka Na'budu wa Laka Nusallee wa Nasjudu wa Ilaieka Nas'aa wa Nah-fidu wa Narjoo Rahmataka wa Nakhshaa 'Azaabaka Inna 'Azaabaka Bil-Kuffaare Mulhiq.

"O Allah! We seek Your help and seek Your forgiveness - and we believe in You and rely on You - and we praise You with all goodness - and we are thankful to You and not ungrateful to You - and we separate from and forsake whoever offends You. O Allah! You alone we worship and for You only we offer the Prayer and the prostration. And towards You only do we rush, and present ourselves for service. And we hope for Your mercy and fear Your punishment. Indeed Your punishment will grasp the disbelievers."

Q 1: What should one recite in case he has not learnt Du'aa-e-Qunoot by heart?

A. He should recite "***Allaa-humma Rabbanaa Aatinaa Fid-Dunyaa Hasanah, wa Fil-Aakhirate Hasanah, wa Qinaa 'Azaaban-Naar***" until he commits Du'aa-e-Qunoot to his memory.

Q 2: What is the standing-upright posture after performance of "Rukoo" called?

A. Standing straight after performing Rukoo is called "Qaumah".

Q 3: What is "sitting posture between two prostrations" called?

A. A pause while sitting between two prostrations is called "Jalsah".

Q 4: What is the prayer offered in congregation called?

A. Prayer offered in congregation is called "Jama'at". He who leads the prayer is called the "Imaam" and one who follows the Imaam in prayer is called a "Muqtaadee".

Q 5: What is he who offers prayer by himself, called?

A. He who does not offer prayer in Jamaa'at but offers by alone, is called "Mufrid".

Q 6: How much reward does one get by offering prayer in Jama'at?

A. Prayer in Jama'at carries 27 times more reward than offering it alone.

Q 7: Which supplications (Du'aa) should be recited while entering and stepping out of mosque?

A. When one enters the mosque, he should put his right foot first and then the left - and recite: "**Allaa-hummaf-tah Lee Abwaaba Rahmatik**" (O' Allah! Open the gates of Your mercy for me), and when he steps out he should take his left foot out first and then the right and recite: "**Allaa-humma Innee As-aluka Min Fadlik**" (O' Allah! I beseech You for Your grace).

Q 8: What should we do in the mosque?

A. Having entered the mosque, softly say "Salaam" to those present there. Offer prayer with Jamaa'at. If there is no time of appointed prayer or you have offered prayer then busy yourself in recitation of the Holy Qur'an, remembrance of Allah, recitation of Kalemah or Durood Shareef. Do not indulge in worldly talks for it is strictly forbidden in the mosque. Do not pass in front of those who are offering prayer. Do not snap fingers.

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 15 - MODE OF OFFERING PRAYER.

Q 1: What is the correct mode of offering prayer?

A. Having performed Wudu and put on a pure and clean dress, one should stand upright at a clean place orientating himself towards the Prayer Direction (Qiblah) with his feet about four toes apart. He should express intention – by heart as well as by tongue - for whichever prayer he has to offer. He should raise his hands upto the ear-lobes in such a way that the palms face the Qiblah and the fingers remain in their normal condition (neither separated nor close together) and then bring them down saying "Allah-o-Akbar" and put them below his navel. The right hand should be placed on the wrist of the left hand with the thumb and the little finger encircling the wrist and the remaining three fingers resting on it. Now recite "Sanaa" (*Subhaanak-Allahomma wa Bi-Hamdeka wa Tabaarakasmuka wa Ta'aalaa Jadduka Walaaa Ilaaha Ghairuk*) followed by "Ta'awuz" (*A'oozu Billaahi Minash Shaietaa-nir Rajeem*) and "Tasmiyah" (*Bism-Allah irRahmaan irRaheem*). Then recite "Surah Faateha" (say Ameen at the end of it in a low voice) followed by any Surah or three small verses. After this he should go into "Rukoo" saying "Allah-o-Akbar" i.e. bow down placing hands on the knees with the fingers well-spread thereon and grasp the knees. The back and the head should be straight in level and the eyes pinned on to the toes.

In this posture say "Subhaana Rabbi-ya Azeem" (Glory be to my Lord, the Most Great) at least thrice and stand erect reciting "Tasmeey" (Sami 'Allaahu Liman Hamedah) and also say "Tahmeed" (Allaahumma Rabbanaa wa Lakal-Hamd or Rabbanaa Lakal Hamd) and then go into "Sajdah" i.e. prostrate in such a manner that first the knees should be placed on the ground then the hands and thereafter the nose and the forehead be placed firmly between both the hands. The arms should be off the sides, the belly away from the thighs and the thighs apart from the calves. All the toes of both the feet should be set firmly on the ground facing the Qiblah. Palms should rest on the ground with the fingers pointing towards the Qiblah. In this position say "Subhaana Rabbi-ya 'Alaa" (Glory be to my Lord, the Most High) three or five times. Then he should rise reciting "Takbeer" and sit in "Jalsah" i.e. first raise his head, then the hands and then sit upright with his left foot under him and the right foot in a vertical position, resting on the insides of the toes facing Qibla. He should put his palms on the thighs near the knees with fingers facing the Qibla. Now he should perform second "Sajdah" reciting "Takbeer" in the same way as the first one. After having observed the second Sajdah he should rise, putting his weight on the front portion of the feet and placing hands on the knees, and stand erect. Do not place hand(s) on the ground for support except for any disability. Now, he is in second Rak'ah. He should recite Tasmiyah, Surah Faateha followed by any other Surah and then perform Rukoo and Sujood like that of the first Rak'ah and observe "Qa'adah" i.e. sit spreading the left foot under him and the right foot in vertical position on the pattern of "Jalsah" and recite "Tashah'ud" and when he reaches the word "Laa" raise the index finger of the right hand. To do this, join the middle finger with the thumb to make a circle with the little and ring fingers bent towards the palm; then lower the index finger whilst uttering "Illal Laahu" and then let all the fingers rest straight like that of the left hand, followed by Durood Shareef and Du'aa. And then say "Salaam" i.e. "As-Salaamu 'Alaikum wa Rahmatul Laah" (peace be on you and Allah's mercy) turning the face first towards the right side and then towards the left. Now two Rak'ahs' prayer is over.

Q 1: How to offer three or four Rak'ahs prayer?

A. If one has to offer more than two Rak'ahs then he should stand up from Qa'adah after having recited Tashah'ud (Attahyaat) and offer the remaining Rak'ah(s) which he has to say. He should recite only Surah Faateha in the remaining Rak'ah(s) of Fard prayer, but in case of Sunnat, Nafil and Waajib, Surah Faateha has to be followed by any other Surah or minimum three verses.

Q 2: What is the difference between the prayer of Imaam and Muqtadi?

A. What mode of offering prayer described here is meant for the Imaam as well as male individual, but in Jamaa'at, Muqtadi does not have to recite Surah Faateha and any other Surah or verses and even not to recite Ta'awuz and Tasmiyah. He has only to recite Sanaa and then to be quiet. While rising from Rukoo he should say "Allaahumma Rabbanaa wa Lakal-Hamd or Rabbanaa Lakal Hamd".

Q 3: What about he who performs Sujood without firmly placing the insides of his toes on the ground?

A. Placing the inside of at least one toe of each foot firmly on the ground while performing Sajdah is Fard (obligatory) and placing the insides of three toes of each foot is Waajib (essential). Prayer is invalid if one only touches his toes with the ground or keeps them off the ground. Unfortunately, most of us are not aware of such essentials of prayer.

Q 4: Which Du'aa is recited after the Fard prayer?

A. After Fard prayer the following Du'aa should be recited :

"Allaa-humma Antas-Salaamu wa-Minkas-Salaamu wa Ilaieka Yarji'us-Salaam. Tabaarakta Rabbanaa wa Ta'aa-laieta Yaa Zal-Jalaale wal-Ikraam"

(O' Allah! You are the Giver of Peace and peace is from You and peace turns towards You. O' our Sovereign Lord! You are the Most Auspicious, and the Supreme – O the possessor of all Majesty and Honour!).

VOLUME 1 / LESSON NO: 16 - SOME GOOD SUPPLICATIONS.

1. On getting up from sleep:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَ مَا أَمَاتَنَا وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ

"Al-Hamdu Lil-Laahil Lazee Ahyaanaa Ba'da Maaa Amaatanaa wa Ilaie-hin Nushoor" (All praise is for Allah Who has given us life after our death and towards Him is the return).

2. Before taking meal: **"BismillLaahir-Rahmaanir Raheem. Allaa-hummaa Baarik Lanaa Feehi wa Abdilnaa Khaieram Minh"** (Allah, beginning with the name of, the Most Affectionate, the Most Merciful. O Allah! Give us blessing in it and give us better than it.)

3. After finishing meal: **"Al-Hamdu Lil-Laahil Lazee At'amanaa wa Saqaanaa wa Ja'alana Minal Muslemeen"** (All praise is for Allah Who has blessed us with food and drink and made us Muslims).

4. On putting on new dress: **"Al-Hamdu Lil-Laahil Lazee Kasaanee Haazaa wa Razaqaneehi Min Ghaire Haulim Minnee wa Laa Quwwah"** (All praise is due to Allah Who has clothed me with this, and provided me without my strength and without my power).

5. On looking into the mirror: **"Allaa-humma Baie-yid Wajhee Yauma Tabyaddu Wujoofoon wa Taswaddu Wujoo"** (O Allah! Brighten my face with light on the day when some faces will be full of light and some faces will be dark).

6. On applying antimony (surma) to eyes: **"Allaa-humma Mat-ti'nee Bis-Sam'i wal Basar"** (O Allah! Grant me the usage of hearing and sight).

7. Repeat Kalemah Tayyib or Kalemah Shahaadat after every prayer, it will earn you a great reward.

8. If you like or love anything of your own or of your Muslim brother say **"Tabaarakallaahu Ahsanul Khaaleqeen. Allaa-humma Baarik Lahu Feehi wa Laa Tadurrah"** (Most Auspicious is Allah, the Best Creator. O' Allah! bless him in it so that it may not harm him), or say "May Allah bless you" it will save him from evil eye.

9. Recite this Du'aa on seeing a thing which you dislike or consider "bad omen": **"Allaa-humma Laa Ya'til-Hasanaati Illaa Anta wa Laa Yafda'us Saie-ati Illaa Anta wa Laa Haula wa Laa Quwwata Illaa Billaah"** (O' Allah! there is none except You Who could give us good and there is none but You Who could save us from evil and there is no might and power but in Allah).

10. Recite this Du'aa when you see one in affliction or illness:

"Al-Hamdu Lil-Laahil Lazee 'Aafaanee Mimmabtalaaka Bihee wa Faddalanee 'Alaa Kaseerim Mimman Khalaqa Tafdeela" (All praise is due to Allah Who has saved me from the affliction which you are faced with and has favoured me over many of His creatures).

IMPORTANT NOTE: For All ARABIC TEXTS, please read from ARABIC ONLY – do not read from the transliteration, as other languages cannot convey the same sounds and then the meanings would differ. The transliteration given in this book is for reference and guidance only.